

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 03890 131611Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 CAB-02 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00
L-03 SAA-01 SSM-03 PM-05 H-01 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 /104 W
-----130604 141441Z /43

R 121326Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8678
INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 3890

MONTREAL FOR USREP ICAO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAIR PORG ICAO LE
SUBJ: POLITICIZATION OF ICAO: LEBANESE VIEWS

REF: STATE 167737

1. ECONOFF CALLED ON DIRGEN CIVIL AVIATION BEYDOUN
JULY 11 TO MAKE POINTS REFTEL AND HEAR DGCA OPINION
OF NEW ICAO SELECTION PROCEDURE.

2. BEYDOUN HAD NOT RECEIVED REPORT ON JUNE 22
ICAO PROCEEDINGS. AFTER REVIEWING PARAS 2-3 REFTEL,
HE RECOLLECTED THE PRE-JUNE 22 SELECTION PROCEDURE
WITH FAMILIARITY AND AFTER ABOUT FIFTEEN MINUTES'
DISCUSSION OF ITS STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES GAVE HIS
OPINION THAT NEW PROCEDURE WAS MORE OPEN THAN THE
PREVIOUS ONE. ASSUMING GENERAL RESPECT FOR THE OBJECT-
IVITY OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, BEYDOUN SAID, ONE
COULD ANTICIPATE THAT HIS CHOICE FROM THE SHORT LIST
WOULD PRODUCE A TECHNICALLY QUALIFIED APPOINTEE.

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3. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION WHETHER THE NEW PROCEDURE
DID NOT GRANT VETO POWERS TO THE AD HOC COMMISSION WITH
REGARD TO THE SHORT LIST, BEYDOUN AGREED IT DID BUT
NOTED THAT VETO POWER WAS INHERENT IN THE SECRETARY-
GENERAL'S ROLE UNDER THE OLD SYSTEM AND WOULD BE "OUT IN
THE OPEN" UNDER THE NEW ONE. BEYDOUN AGREED THAT THERE
WAS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE POSITION OF SECRETARY-

GENERAL AS AN "INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVANT" AND THOSE OF AD HOC COMMISSION MEMBERS WHO WERE FUNDED BY STATES, BUT AGAIN DECLINED TO SEE A FORBODING PRACTICAL EFFECT IN THE NEW PROCEDURES.

4. COMMENTS: BEYDOUN'S VIEWS WERE DEVOID OF EXCITEMENT ON THE ISSUE. HE WAS UNINFORMED OF IT, BUT EVEN AFTER CONSIDERING IT FOUND NO BAIT WORTH RISING TO. WE WONDER WHETHER ICAO SECRETARY-GENERAL KOTEIT, BEING LEBANESE, REACTED WITH SIMILAR EQUANIMITY TO THE RULE CHANGE. BEYDOUN APPARENTLY (1) HAS NO OFFICIAL GOL GUIDANCE ON THE CHANGE, (2) IS PERSONALLY NOT AGAINST IT, AND (3) IS NOT A SOURCE OF STRONG VIEWS EITHER PRO OR CON. SINCE WE HAVE NO SIGN THAT LEBANON'S VOTE ON THE ISSUE WAS DIRECTED FROM BEIRUT, EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT ICAO USREP APPROACH GOL REP MOUFID ABOUCHACRA WITH REFTEL POINTS DIRECTLY. PARKER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BEIRUT03890
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780289-0309
Format: TEL
From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780771/aaaachuc.tel
Line Count: 79
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 19764977-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 167737
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2043841
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POLITICIZATION OF ICAO: LEBANESE VIEWS
TAGS: EAIR, PORG, LE, ICAO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/19764977-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014